Councils have been set up in different States under the Consumer Protection Act; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by these Councils to protect consumers from exploitation by profiteers and hoarders?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) As per the information received so far, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Madhya Pradesh; Maharashtra, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh Delhi, and Pondicherry have set up Consumer Protection Councils. The main object of these Councils is to protect and promote the rights of the consumers, such as, the right to safety, right to be informed, right to choose, right to be heard, right to seek redressal, right to consumer education etc. The role of these Councils is advisory in nature. Action against hoarders and profiteers has to be taken by the State Governments under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and other similar legislations and/or through the redressal machinery to be set up at the national, state and district level under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Production of Fertilizers

797. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a glut of fertilisers in the country;

(b) if so, what is the present position with regard to production in the fertiliser plants in the public sector, unitwise;

(c) whether Government have imposed conditions on MMTC (Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation) to restrict the import; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) There is excess availability of fertilisers in the market due to low consumption caused by prolonged drought conditions in many parts of the country.

(b) A statement is attached. (*See* below).

(c) and (d) MMTC as the canalising agency aranges the import of fertilisers as per approved import requirements. Based on assessed requirements and the estimated availability, it was not considered necessary to import any nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilisers during the current year. Imports of these matterials were, therefore, drastically reduced to accommodate only the inescapable trade commitments.

Statement

Production of Fertilisers in Public Sector Units in terms of Nutrients

(000 MT)

Name of Company/Plant	NITROGEN		PHOSPHATE	
	1986-87	1987-88 April-Sept. 1987	1986-87	1987-88 April-Sept. 1987
(i) *Public Sector:*				
FGI : Sindri Modn.	135·3	59·7	..	..
: Gorakhpur	84·1	24·7	..	..
: Ramagundam	113·2	5·5	..	..
: Talcher	58·8	36·9	..	..
NFL : Nangal-I	57 1	27 3	..	..
: Nangal-II	134·3	64 5	..	..
: Bhatinda	169·4	83·1	..	..
: Panipat	190·0	106·2	..	..
HFC : Namrup-I	8·8	2·8	..	..
: Namrup-II	86 9	37·1	..	..
: Namrup-III	..		..	..
: Durgapur	50·8	13·0	..	..
: Barauni	61·6	29·2	..	..
: Haldia	..	.	..	..
FACT : Udyogmandal	52·5	25·3	30·3	14·1
: Cochin-I	105·5	16 5	..	..
: Cochin-II	80·0	40·6	90·0	49·9
RCF : Trombay	85·7	45·5	39·7	23·4
: Trombay-IV	61·7	27·2	61·7	27·7
: Trombay-V	153·7	54·7	..	..
: Thal	479·2	282 5	..	..
MFL : Madras	157·3	11·5	103·0	28·9
SAIL : Rourkela	40·0	18·5	..	..
NLC : Neyveli	58·9	24·5	..	..
PPL : Paradeep	76·1	32·7	194·5	83·5
By Product	13·1	7·3		
HCL : Khetri	..	..	7·8	5·7
SSP Units	..	..	7·0	8·5
(ii) *Cooperative Sector:*				
IFFCO: Kalol/Kandla	316·4	139·0	342·0	150·0
: Phulpur	222·2	99·0	..	..
KRIBHCO: Hazira	579·4	342·9	..	..